

Lanesboro City Council
Monday, November 16th, 2009
Council Chambers at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Rahn, O'Connor, Dybing and Allen

Absent: Jeannette

Visitors: Lisa Brainard and Jade Wangen

REGULAR MEETING:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rahn.

Additions or Changes to the agenda consisted of adding Library Bills, the closed meeting report and the old Christmas decorations. O'Connor made a motion to approve the agenda with those changes, second Dybing, motion carried.

The meeting minutes for the November 2nd meeting were approved with a motion by Dybing, second Allen, motion carried.

PERSONS WITH BUSINESS BEFORE THE COUNCIL:

N/A

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION MEETINGS:

A. Library: November 9th - Allen: Allen reported that the Scholastic Book Fair would be held in the Community Center Basement on the 19th, 20th and 21st, the times were 3-7 on the 19th and 20th and 9-1 on the 21st. She also noted that new at the library is the ability to pay your fines online!

B. Public Utilities: November 16th – O'Connor: O'Connor reported that the PU received word from FEMA that they would not be contributing towards the repair of the dam, noting insufficient evidence. They noted that the technical reports were not sufficient or timely enough noting that the last detailed report was in the 80s, which was not timely enough. O'Connor noted that the PU can appeal and explore other options such as working with the DNR for the bonding bill, talking with the Corp of Engineers and the state. O'Connor noted that the budget for the PU will be complete next month and noted that the major goal for 2010 is to split the balance sheet according to each separate enterprise. The PU will also be looking at capital needs for the next five to ten years.

HOUSEKEEPING:

A. Paying of the Bills: O'Connor made motion to pay the bills as presented and the Library bills based upon approval by the Library Board, second Dybing, motion carried.

B. Outdoor Burning: Discussion occurred about the ordinance prepared by Attorney Manion. It was noted that there should be some change of wording, from Outdoor Wood Fired Furnaces to Outdoor Furnace with a definition being that an outdoor furnace that burns corn, pellets or wood. O'Connor motion to approve the ordinance as presented with that specific change, second Allen, motion carried.

C. 2010 Budget Review/Changes: O'Connor noted that he would not be at the December 7th, but he felt that an increase in the employee's health benefit was in order due to no wage increases and the increase in health insurance costs. Vickerman explained to the Council that the employees are trying to find the right solution for everyone in regards to health insurance, noting that the premiums for a high deductible plan are now at the second highest tier for the Lanesboro group. The employees are working with Creighton Horihan from Linda Horihan Agency to seek out other options.

D. Junk Ordinance – Final Process: Vickerman noted that there was one property that was out of compliance up until the past weekend. She noted that they had cleaned up the property quite a

bit and that she would keep constant communication with them until it was all taken care of. She also noted that there was another property that was being handled based upon state statute and at this time would not need to be followed up with the junk ordinance.

E. Old Christmas Decorations: Vickerman noted that the Street Shop is holding lots of old bells that used to hang on the light poles and she asked what the Council wished to have done with them. The Council asked Vickerman to find someone to take the decorations or to donate towards the City for the decorations, or to get rid of them to another municipal that may want them or a citizen that may want them.

F. Closed Meeting Report: Manion reported that at the last meeting there was a closed meeting based upon client/attorney privileges. Manion summarized the three issues as follows:

- 1) Council voted to have the attorney clarify the existence of the public right away
- 2) Council voted to ensure safety of City Staff in regards to comments made towards staff regarding their safety and to have the Attorney and Chief of Police work out a plan to take steps to improve the protection and safety of the City employees.
- 3) Robert Thompson Assessment, based on MN State statute the City is allowed to charge back fees for witnesses and expenses related to legal proceedings, charges were placed based upon state statute, since the City won the case. However, the Council chose waive those charges due to the Thompsons volunteerism and devotion to the City.

ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING:

At 6:11pm, O'Connor made a motion to adjourn, second Dybing, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbie Vickerman
City Administrator/Clerk